

Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. The legislation eliminates all crime prevention grants and uses that money for "research and evaluation." Mr. President, I am a strong advocate of research and evaluation, and have introduced a bill with Senator BILL COHEN of Maine that would require federally funded prevention programs to set aside money for rigorous, independent evaluation. But this proposed reauthorization funds research at the expense of all crime prevention programs. That is unacceptable.

Mr. President, at a time when juvenile crime is on the rise, when law enforcement officials are asking for more prevention funds, and when case studies and statistical evidence are proving that we can prevent crimes, protect citizens, and save money in the long run—how can this Congress cut funding for crime prevention and eliminate these programs?

When I walk the streets with police officers in Wisconsin and I tell them what Congress is considering, they are shocked. These people know what works and they want our help. We should not turn our backs on America's police officers and future generations, and resign ourselves to even more prisons and police. We have other alternatives that we should fund—cost effective measures which can prevent crime before it happens.

Mr. President, I look forward to working with my colleagues in a bipartisan fashion to correct the lack of juvenile crime prevention in the proposed versions of the Justice Department's funding bill and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. This is not a partisan issue—members from both parties recognize the common sense of spending at least a small portion of federal funds on prevention. As these bills come to the floor, I hope more colleagues see the tremendous progress we can make if we just move past the simplistic arguments and recognize the value of a small investment in crime prevention programs. •

SALUTE TO BRISTOL TREE CITY USA BOARD

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the Bristol TN, Tree City USA Board, which was founded 6 years ago to enhance the natural beauty of the Bristol area.

Under the leadership of Dr. Donald Ellis, the tree board has embarked on a massive reforestation project in their area. Since the effort began, Tennesseans have volunteered one by one to plant trees around Bristol with the goal of planting 1 million trees by the Tennessee bicentennial this year. Mr. President, I'm proud to say that these volunteers have not only reached their goal, but they will gather together on September 6 to plant tree number 1 million and one.

This is truly an example of the spirit that has made the Volunteer State

great for 200 years, and it's fitting that the 1 million and first tree will be planted this year by a volunteer.

In celebration of the bicentennial, my family and I also planted a tree—in Washington DC. Earlier this summer, Karyn, the boys and I planted a tulip poplar—the Tennessee State tree—on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol Building. This bicentennial tree will serve as the official Tennessee State tree on the Capitol grounds and as a testament to the contagious nature of beautification efforts like Tree City USA.

Mr. President, I commend Tree City USA for its dedication to the community of Bristol. Projects like Tree City USA not only benefit the people of Bristol, but all Americans. I would also like to commend the people of Bristol, TN and thank them for their efforts. Tree City USA could not reach its goal without the hard work of these community-minded citizens.

• Mr. KERREY. Mr. President I would like to express my appreciation to the managers of the FY1997 Agriculture Appropriations bill, the Senior Senator from Mississippi Mr. COCHRAN and the Senior Senator from Arkansas Mr. BUMPERS. Both Senators worked very hard to see that a well balanced bill came out of Conference. I would also like to note my appreciation that the conferees made a very wise decision to fully fund the Food Safety Inspection Service. Full funding for FSIS allows our food safety inspectors to do their job of protecting the nation's meat and poultry. I also rise to engage Mr. BUMPERS in a colloquy regarding the importance of food safety research done by the Agricultural Research Service. Understanding the enormous role that research plays in agriculture, I believe it is important to note that by increasing funding for food safety research the conferees laid the groundwork for a safe food supply well into the next century.

Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, I also rise in support of the conferees decision to increase spending on food safety research through the Agricultural Research Service. This research is a very important part of the Federal Government's effort to protect the nation's food supply. The FY1997 Agriculture Appropriation's Conference Report sets spending for ARS Food Safety Research at \$5.5 million. By increasing funding for this research the Conferees took an important step toward ensuring that our food supply meets our highest expectations.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I appreciate Senator BUMPERS' support of this important issue. I would like to talk about several particular food safety research initiatives. I strongly support, along with the Conferees, three important components of pre-harvest and post-harvest food safety research proposed by the Agricultural Research Service. The Conferees made the right decision to fund research of methodologies for Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) validation,

host-pathogen relationships and rapid on-farm DNA-based diagnostic testing.

ARS should emphasize research on the genetic basis for host-pathogen relationships. Scientists already know that exposure, infection, and contamination of live animals by certain bacteria and parasites can result in pathogens in our meat-based foods. Further research in this area will enable scientists to develop methods to identify and select animals that are resistant to foodborne pathogens.

Along with studying the host-pathogen relationship, it is important that researchers develop rapid, specific, and sensitive DNA-based diagnostic tests that will allow identification of pathogens in live animals and their production environment. By developing technologies and techniques that make this identification possible, we will be able to prevent meat and poultry contamination problems in the early stages of production.

It is also very important that ARS develop on-line methodologies for HACCP validation. HACCP involves the systematic identification and prevention of safety hazards in food production processes. I applaud the administration's decision to implement this program and once again would like to emphasize the importance of the Conferee's decision to fully fund the Food Safety Inspection Service so that the benefits of HACCP can be recognized. Does the Senator agree that the three research areas I just described are important to the agricultural community and as a result deserve the funding we allocated to that purpose?

Mr. BUMPERS. I thank the Senator from Nebraska for his question. I support the Conferees decision to fund research of host-pathogen relationships, rapid on-farm DNA-based diagnostic testing and improved methodologies for HACCP validation. These three areas have been targeted by the administration as priority research that should be carried out by the Agricultural Research Service, and I support that prioritization.

By supporting research to elucidate the relationship between livestock and pathogens, we will lay the foundation for breeding livestock that are resistant to foodborne pathogens and developing effective on-farm diagnostic tests. In this manner, scientists can improve our food production systems in the earliest stages before the meat ever reaches the processor. Furthermore, effective methodologies for HACCP validation will help federal food safety inspectors to ensure that our meat and poultry is not contaminated. The Conferees sent a strong message that they support food safety research at the Agricultural Research Service and I am pleased that the bill provides increased funding for this purpose.